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## Iowa Counts Her Chickens

Ralph L. Baker  
*Iowa State College*

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# Iowa Counts

**W**HAT DOES the future hold for Iowa poultrymen? Poultry and egg production was expanded rapidly to meet war demands. U. S. egg production in 1946 will be nearly 40 percent higher than in 1940. Iowa's 1946 production will be around 55 percent

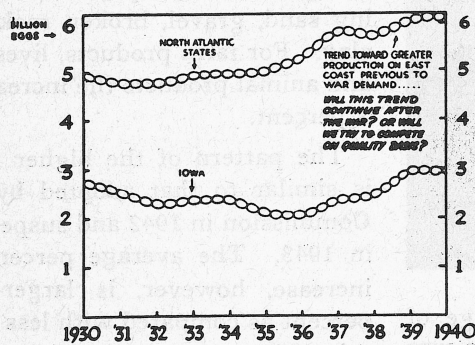
higher than in 1940. The increase in Iowa in the 6-year period averages nearly 700 dozen eggs per farm. How much of this increase can be profitably maintained?

What is likely to happen to demand for chickens and eggs? It is rather difficult to bring the de-

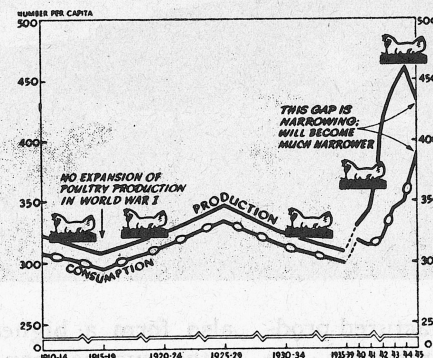
By RALPH L. BAKER

mand picture into sharp focus. How many eggs will the British want next year? Are consumers tired of eggs and poultry? Will workers' incomes remain high?

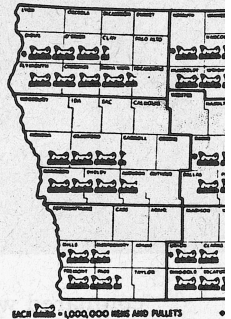
Number of Eggs Produced in Iowa and in North Atlantic States, 1930-1940



Estimated Per Capita Production and Consumption of Eggs in United States, 1910-14 to 1945



Number of Hens Age on Iowa Farm Report

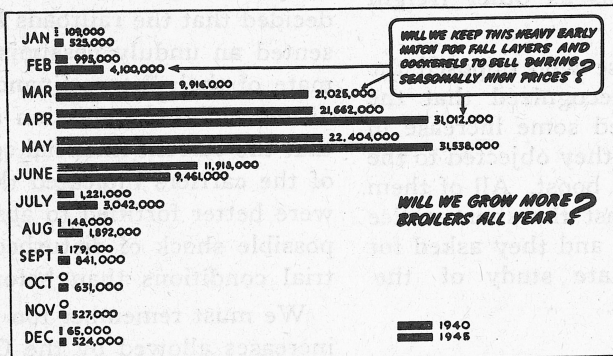


Eastern producers, in general, do a better job of quality production. Consumers like good eggs. Because of market demands for high quality eggs, eastern producers expanded egg production in prewar years.

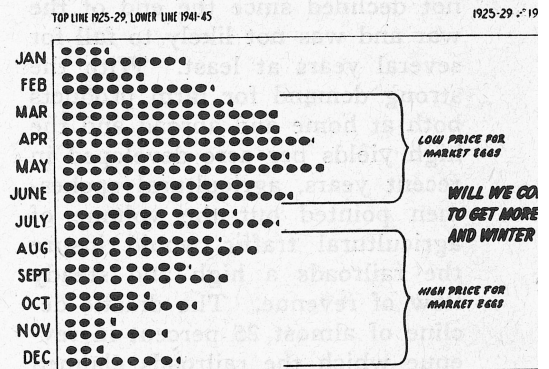
The normal difference between per capita production and consumption is largely due to eggs used for hatching and loss. During the war period many eggs were exported. Postwar exports will be smaller.

The chicken population in northern Iowa. Iowa were smaller c rule, northern Iowa job with their chicke

Number of Chicks Hatched in Iowa Hatcheries 1940, 1945, by Months



Number of Eggs Laid Per Hen on Iowa Farm by Months



Earlier hatching is one of the important Iowa wartime improvements. Earlier hatched chicks means marketing of poultry over a longer season and less market glutting. It also results in more fall and winter eggs when prices are highest.

Iowa greatly improved her seasonal egg production and egg production per hen over the past 15 years the result of better breeding, feeding, management and earlier hatching. There's still room for improvement.



# Iowa Counts Her Chickens

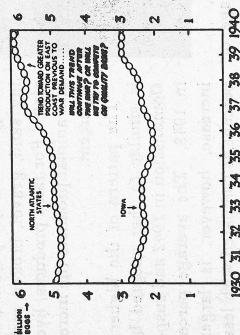
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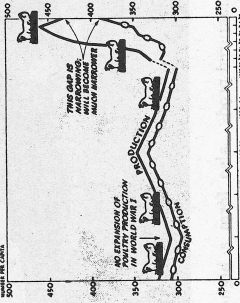
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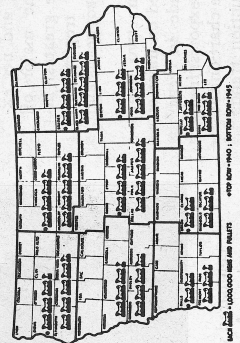
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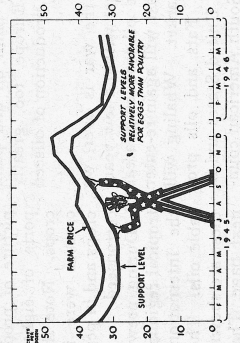
Estimated Per Capita Production and Consumption of Eggs in United States, 1910-14 to 1945



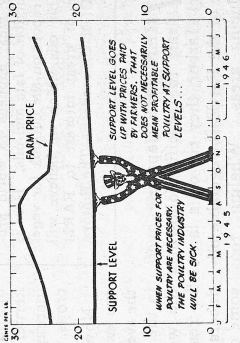
Number of Hens and Pullets of Laying Age on Iowa Farms, 1940, 1945 by Crop Reporting Districts



U. S. Farm Price of Eggs Compared to Steagall Amendment Price Support Level Since January, 1945



U. S. Farm Price of Poultry Compared to Steagall Amendment Price Support Level Since January, 1945



Eastern producers, in general, do a better job of quality production. Consumers like good eggs. Because of market demands for high quality eggs, eastern producers expanded egg production in prewar years.

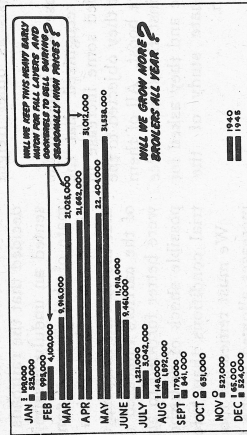
The normal difference between per capita production and consumption is largely due to eggs used for hatching and loss. During the war period many eggs were exported. Postwar exports will be smaller.

The chicken population is normally greater in northern Iowa. Increases in southern Iowa were smaller during the war. As a rule, northern Iowa poultrymen do a better job with their chickens.

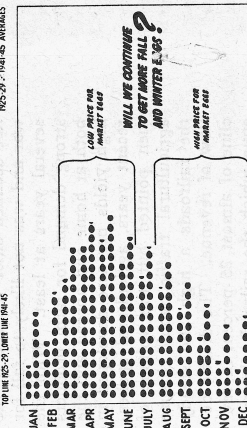
Uncle Sam is committed by the Steagall Amendment to support egg prices at 90 percent of parity for 2 full years beginning with January 1 after the war is declared over. We're close to support level now.

The Steagall Amendment will not be very effective for chickens. The 1910-14 level of chicken prices was too low for the support price to benefit producers. Commercial broilers have no price support.

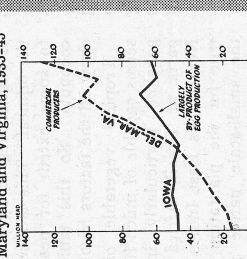
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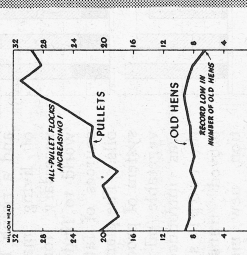
Number of Eggs Laid Per Hen on Iowa Farms by Months



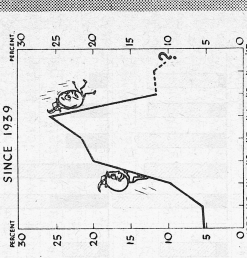
Number of Chickens Raised on Iowa Farms and Number of Broilers Raised in Maryland and Virginia, 1935-45



Estimated Number of Hens and Pullets on Iowa Farms January 1, 1934 to 1946



Percentage of U. S. Farm Production of Eggs Used As Liquid, Frozen or Dried



Earlier hatching is one of the important Iowa wartime improvements. Earlier hatched chicks means marketing of poultry over a longer season and less market glutting. It also results in more fall and winter eggs when prices are highest.

Iowa greatly improved her seasonal egg production pattern and egg production per hen over the past 15 years. This is the result of better breeding, feeding, management and earlier hatching. There's still room for improvement.

This is what is happening in another area of the country. Some areas in Iowa might raise commercial broilers.

Market egg producers in Iowa realize the advantages of "All Pullet" flocks. Note how number of old hens has decreased.

Freezing and drying reached a peak in 1944 when production and lend-lease commitments were high.